The Social Psychology Of Group Cohesiveness: From Attraction To Social Identity

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Social identity theory, for example, assumes that we don’t just classify other people into such social categories as man, woman, Anglo, elderly, or college student, but we also categorize ourselves. Moreover, if we strongly identify with these categories, then we will ascribe the characteristics of the typical member of these groups to ourselves, and so stereotype ourselves. Groups, though, tend to be underachievers. Studies of social facilitation confirmed the positive motivational benefits of working with other people on well-practiced tasks in which each member’s contribution to the collective enterprise can be identified and evaluated. Members tend to enjoy their groups more when they are cohesive, and cohesive groups usually outperform ones that lack cohesion. New York: New York University Press. has been cited by the following article: Title: The Role of an Animal-Mascot in the Psychological Adjustment of Soldiers Exposed to Combat Stress. Authors: Marion Trousselard, Aurelie Jean, Francois Beiger, Florent Marchandot, Bernard Davoust, Frederic Canini. Keywords: Animal-Mascot, Coping, Stress. Journal Name: Psychology, Vol.5 No.15, October 30, 2014. Abstract: For many soldiers confronted with exposure to stressful situations, an animal-mascot bond is considered effective help for dealing with the stress. Both social and task cohesiveness can be promoted by encouraging voluntary interaction among group members or by creating a unique and attractive identity of the group, for example, by introducing a common logo or uniform. Finally, cohesiveness is generally larger in small groups. References: Hogg, M. A. (1992). The social psychology of group cohesiveness: From attraction to social identity. New York: Harvester. Mullen, B., & Copper, C. (1994).
Social identity traditionally focused on problems of intergroup relations and conflict. Social identity research has evolved to include group processes in general. Social identity also encompasses group cohesiveness, social influence, social cooperation and crowd behavior. People typically make conscious choices to identify themselves with a group which shares common features. These achieved identities allow the person to be actively involved with others who may share similar social identities. This may also be the case for ascribed identities, where people can choose whether openly to claim t